

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee:

I am writing in opposition to the designation of our state suffering a public health crisis because of “gun violence.” This is an idiotic declaration. A gun is an object. It is not violent nor is it a toy to be handled carelessly.

A gun, as with alcohol, pain killers, marijuana, and a dozen other “objects” and “products” carelessly referred to by a qualifier of “good” or “bad” and in the case of firearms, either “protective” and necessary, or as “violent.”

Those who describe the criminal acts of individuals as gun violence insanely believe that were it not for the firearm, the criminal would not have acted violently. Nothing can be further from the truth. The state has witnessed years of coddling criminals, reducing prison population to satisfy silly social engineering objectives and modifying judicial actions that put criminals back into our neighborhoods with no regard for their past records of violence against the public.

This proposed legislation seeks to now call the misguided actions of the past legislatures a “health crisis.” Were the facts to be more clearly presented, the public would realize that it's a “legislative and administration” crisis that has sacrificed the safety of our neighborhoods for votes. And the declaration of a health crisis due to gun violence is undeniable proof that the current and recent past members of our state government have failed miserably. Quit throwing studies, committees, money, and feel good names at the problem. The solutions are readily identifiable and easily implemented if our legislature has the fortitude to act.

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